

B1  
C1  
a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection.

B2  
5. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the breaking system comprises alcohol released from a precursor consisting of at least of one of the following: an ester, a carboxylate anion, organic sulfate based salts, and sodium dodecyl sulfate.

B3  
15. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the breaking system or the precursor of the breaking system is provided in the form of nanoparticles.

16. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the breaking system comprises alcohol.

19. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the breaking system does not substantially reduce high shear viscosity.

B4  
20. (Amended) A method of treating a subterranean formation, said treatment selected among hydraulic fracturing, acid fracturing and comprising the step of injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing a breaking system or a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection, wherein the breaking system reduces the low shear viscosity and is added to the viscoelastic fluid during the pad or the pre-pad stage.

B5  
22. (Amended) A method of treating a subterranean formation by first injecting, down a well, a solid-free aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a cationic viscoelastic surfactant and an alcohol, selected among methanol and ethanol, and then, a proppant-containing aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of said cationic viscoelastic surfactant.

B6  
29. (Amended) A composition for treating a subterranean formation comprising an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant and a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid, said precursor of the breaking system comprising resin-coated proppant.

33. (Amended) A composition for treating a subterranean formation comprising an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant and a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid, said precursor of the breaking system comprising at least one of the following: a C<sub>12</sub> to C<sub>18</sub> alcohol, alkyl amines, alkanes, alkenes, aromatics and mixtures thereof.

B7  
34. (Amended) A composition for treating a subterranean formation comprising an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of an anionic and/or cationic viscoelastic surfactant and a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid, said precursor of the breaking system being a slow-soluble surfactant having hydrophilic headgroups oppositely charged to the hydrophilic headgroups of the anionic or cationic surfactants of the viscoelastic surfactant fluid.

35. (Amended) A composition for treating a subterranean formation comprising an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant and a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid, said precursor of the breaker system being provided in the form of nanoparticles.

Please further add the following claims 37 to 50

B8  
Can  
37. A method of treating a subterranean formation by injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection, wherein said breaking system is a by-product of the reaction of resin-coated proppant.

38. A method of treating a subterranean formation by injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection, wherein said precursor releases the breaking system by at least one of the following process: melting, slow dissolution, reaction with a compound present in the fluid or added to the fluid during or after the step of injecting, rupture of an encapsulating coating and de-

adsorption of a breaking agent absorbed into solid particles and wherein the wherein the breaking system comprises alcohol released from a precursor consisting of at least of one of the following: an ester, a carboxylate anion, organic sulfate based salts, and sodium dodecyl sulfate.

39. A method of treating a subterranean formation by injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing a precursor of a breaking system, said breaking comprising a carboxylic acid and causing a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection.

40. The method of claim 39, wherein the viscoelastic surfactant is a zwitterionic surfactant and the breaking system is citric acid.

41. The method of claim 39 wherein the carboxylic acid is released from a precursor comprising a carboxylate anion, said released being performed after lowering of the pH of the viscoelastic surfactant fluid through hydrolysis of an ester.

42. A method of treating a subterranean formation by injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection., said breaking system released by melting a precursor, said precursor consisting of at least one of the following: a C<sub>12</sub> to C<sub>18</sub> alcohol, alkyl amines, alkanes, alkenes, aromatics and mixtures thereof.

43. A method of treating a subterranean formation by injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic anionic and/or cationic surfactant comprising providing a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection., said breaking system released by dissolution of at least a surfactant having hydrophilic headgroups oppositely charged to the hydrophilic headgroups of the anionic or cationic surfactants of the viscoelastic surfactant fluid.

44. The method of claim 38, wherein the breaking system is at least one of the followings: an alkyl sulfate, an ether sulfate, an alkyl halide, a carboxylic acid, a carboxylic acid salt, an alkyl phosphate, an aryl phosphate or mixture thereof.
45. The method of claim 44, wherein said breaker is a C<sub>18</sub> to C<sub>20</sub> alkyl sulfate or mixture thereof.
46. The method of claim 42, wherein the breaking system is released by slow dissolution and is at least one of the followings: alkyl amines; alkanes, alkenes and aromatics.
47. The method of claim 46, wherein the breaking system is dodecyl amine.
48. A method of treating a subterranean formation by injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing a breaking system or a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection., said breaking system, wherein the breaker system or the precursor of the breaker system is provided in the form of nanoparticles.
49. A method of treating a subterranean formation by injecting down a well an aqueous fluid comprising a thickening amount of a viscoelastic surfactant comprising providing a breaking system or a precursor of a breaking system that causes a reduction in viscosity of the fluid after its injection but does not significantly impact its viscosity at surface and during the injection, said breaking system comprising alcohol.
50. The method of claim 16, wherein said alcohol is methanol or ethanol.
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